

64-8539

25 November 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: General Joseph F. Carroll
Director, DIA

Mr. Thomas L. Hughes
Director, INR

For your information the following are the gists of messages sent to Saigon on 24 November by CIA channels:

The Washington team studying MACV infiltration figures is directed not to return to Washington with Ambassador Taylor. Further tasks will follow soonest.

Terms of reference are as follows: We are in receipt of a report that the State-DIA-CIA team dispatched by USIB to check MACV infiltration figures have upon examination reached judgment that MACV's latest figures can be verified and therefore considered dependable. This raises the most serious problems because estimates of 1962 and 1963 were only a fraction of those now reported by MACV. Therefore in addition to your statement that current figures are correct, we must know:

- a. What was the basis for the original figures?
- b. If intelligence upon which original figures was based was fragmentary and incomplete or undependable, why were the infiltration figures presented as a confident judgment?
- c. Are there any changes or departures in sources, criteria, or methodology from those used in prior years which accounts for the change?

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d. Other factors that have entered into this analysis which might be responsible for the substantial change.

This matter of the utmost importance. Therefore request penetrating on-site examination of all facts relating to the above questions with respect to estimates of MACV and CAS for years 1962, 1963, and 1964.

WALTER ELDER
EA/DCI

WE:mcm

- 1 - DCI Chrono
- 1 - DCI State File
- 1 - DCI DIA File
- 1 - EA/DCI